

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
12 June, 1974

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 17 July, 1974
18 September, 1974
- B. Minutes of May, 1974 meeting.
- C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Plan Hearings - Report.
- D. Zoning Hearing on 1720-30 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. - Report.
- E. Massachusetts Avenue Historic District Hearings - Report.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

- A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development
Shipstead-Luce Act
 - 1. SL 74-72, 2501 M Street, N.W. - New Six Story Office Building - Preliminary Submission.
 - 2. SL 74-73, 1735 F Street, N.W. - New YMCA Squash Courts.
 - 3. SL 74-76, 3800 Linnean Avenue, N.W. - Embassy/Chancery for the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic.
 - 4. Appendix 1.
Old Georgetown Act
Appendix 2.
- B. National Park Service, National Capital Parks
 - 1. Peter Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Street, N.W. - Resubmission.

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2. Comfort Stations, West Potomac Park - Resubmission.
 3. Alterations to the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials to provide elevators for the handicapped - Resubmission.
 4. Anacostia River Park System.
 5. Pavement Markings in the Monumental Area of Washington.
 6. Seabee Memorial Alterations.
- C. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
1. Patient Visitor Facility, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.
 2. Emergency Pumping Station, Potomac Estuary - Resubmission.
- D. Redevelopment Land Agency
- "Streets for People" Information Center.
- E. American Battle Monuments Commission
- Pershing Memorial Mockup.

INTERVIEWS

- 11:30 A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development
- Shipstead-Luce Act
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 2. SL 74-73, 1735 F Street, N.W. - New YMCA Squash Courts.
 3. SL 74-76, 3800 Linnean Avenue, N.W. - Embassy/Chancery for the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic.
- 11:45 B. National Park Service, National Capital Parks
1. Peter Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Street, N.W. - Resubmission.
 2. Comfort Stations, West Potomac Park - Resubmission.

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3. Alterations to the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials to provide elevators for the handicapped - Resubmission.

4. Anacostia River Park System.

5. Pavement Markings in the Monumental Area of Washington.

12:00 C. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

1. Patient Visitor Facility, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

2. Emergency Pumping Station, Potomac Estuary - Resubmission.

12:15 D. Redevelopment Land Agency

"Streets for People" Information Center.

INSPECTIONS

12:30 A. American Battle Monuments Commission

Pershing Memorial Mockup.

12:45 B. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

Seabee Memorial Alterations.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
12 June, 1974

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
 Hon. Jane O. Dart
 Hon. Kevin Roche
 Hon. Chloethiel Woodard Smith
 Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
 Hon. George A. Weymouth

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Miss Nancy Ferguson
 Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
 Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
 Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher
 Mr. David L. Miller
 Miss Lynda L. Smith

National Capital Planning

Commission Staff Present: Mr. Edward Hromanick

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were set at 31 July and 18 September, 1974. The July meeting date was set as a compromise date in the middle of the summer, to be held if needed.

B. Minutes of May, 1974 meeting, approved.

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Plan Hearings, Report. The Secretary reported that the Commission statement had been accompanied by an appearance by the Chairman at the May 18, 1974 meeting. At that time the Commission's May 15, 1974 action on the plan was given to the Mayor in a public meeting. The Secretary promised to circulate, by mail, copies of the transcript of the Chairman's statement as soon as possible.

D. Zoning Hearing on 1720-30 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Report. The Assistant Secretary reported that the hearing on May 15, 1974, had resulted in all testimony on historic preservation or design being classi-

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fied as irrelevant by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The applicant, in this case the owners, had petitioned the Board to refuse to hear all irrelevant testimony and the Board had granted this request. The Secretary of the National Capital Planning Commission requested a delay in order to prepare a brief on why historic preservation and design were relevant to zoning considerations. The determination of the question of relevancy would be held in the near future and the Commission would be kept informed. At such time as historic and design testimony might be permitted, the Commission of Fine Arts statement approved in April, 1974 would be presented to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

E. Massachusetts Avenue Historic District Hearings, Report. The Assistant Secretary told of the Joint Committee on Landmarks holding a public meeting to determine the advisability of the nomination to the National Register of the Massachusetts Avenue Historic District. The Joint Committee had declared the area a landmark previously. After pro and con testimony by the Joint Committee on Landmarks agreed to nominate the Massachusetts Avenue Historic District to the National Register. Several of the affected property owners filed suit against inadequate notice and the conduct of the Landmarks Committee. The Commission would be posted on the final outcome.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 74-72, 2501 M Street, N.W. - New Six Story Office Building - Preliminary Submission. The Secretary presented a perspective and drawings for this office building with shops on the first floor. He pointed out that the entrance-lobby area had a mirrored glass bridge connecting the two office elements. The building was across the street from the old Sealtest Dairy site where the Commission had considered a new commercial complex and next to a new office building the Commission had approved about a year earlier. The Commission approved the design, but questioned the concept of buff precast concrete next to several dark brick buildings approved within recent months. The general feeling was that a buff building would provide too much contrast with the green trees on Rock Creek's edge and thus would be overly visible from the Park. The Commission suggested submission of material samples, eventual submission of working drawings, and a sight-line study of the building from Rock Creek Park.

2. SL 74-73, 1735 F Street, N.W. - New Y.M.C.A. Squash Courts. The Assistant Secretary presented a series of drawings and photographs showing a one-floor twenty-foot high structure set back six feet from

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the building line and to be located between historic Michler Row and the new Home Loan Bank Board Building. The building was proposed in painted concrete block with a few air vents, but no windows or distinct architectural details. The Commission disapproved the design saying that the building was too utilitarian for this location one block from the White House and in the midst of several historic, controversial and carefully designed structures. But the consensus was that the building would be permissible if the facade were brick and a garden wall were put on the building line for screening and landscaping - and to prevent parking.

3. SL 74-76, 3800 Linnean Avenue, N.W. - Embassy/Chancery for the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a perspective of this pre-cast concrete contemporary styled residence-office building to be located on the edge of Rock Creek Park near the historic Pierce Mill. The Commission felt that the building was well designed and hoped that it could be landscaped with mature trees to soften the change in contours on the Park's edge. The project was approved.

4. Appendix 1, approved.

Old Georgetown Act

Appendix 2, approved.

B. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Peter Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Streets, N.W. - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings and a model of this memorial to be built on upper Connecticut Avenue at Ellicott Street, N.W. He reminded the Commission that they had disapproved the previous submission on the basis of a pump house and wall on the west and a plan which did not relate to the triangular site. The resubmission showed an oval ground plane scheme with a pool and a simple sculptural element on the center axis. The pump house had been submerged and a previously shown children's reading garden was eliminated. The Commission felt that the designer had responded to their suggestions and approved it. Architect Paul Harbeson, of Philadelphia, was present so the Chairman conveyed the Commission's approval to him. Exhibit 1.

2. Comfort Stations, West Potomac Park - Resubmission. The Secretary showed the Commission drawings depicting these circular comfort stations, previously approved by the Commission. No action was required, the presentation was to confirm that the Commission's advice to use light gray slate as the exterior material had been taken.

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3. Alterations to the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials to provide elevators for the handicapped - Resubmission. The Secretary showed the Commission drawings confirming their previous approval with additional detail development. At the previous submission the members had questioned the possibility of retaining the existing mature evergreens flanking the Lincoln Memorial. The Park Service assured the Commission that these plants would be retained. At the Jefferson Memorial some retaining wall and ramp details showed how the new construction would be screened from the parking entrance area. No action was required.

4. Anacostia River Park System. The Assistant Secretary presented a series of drawings and models for this large, flat park area. He pointed out that the Commission had been reviewing designs for parks along the Anacostia since the 1920's, showing several of the previous schemes. The present proposal included pulling back most of the roadway and parking from the river's edge, stabilizing the bulkhead, providing additional landscaping and adding a series of small picnic shelters. In the near future a roller skating facility would be added. The new buildings would be concrete post and wood beam with hip roofs - several foot bridges of the same character would be built as needed. The Commission liked the general scheme and character of the buildings proposed. They questioned one particular area which had parking rather close to the river's edge and suggested that the trellised picnic shelters might be more useful with full roofs. Further discussion was held later in the day with the project representatives.

5. Pavement Markings in the Monumental Area of Washington. The Secretary presented a letter from the National Park Service and a report by the Department of Transportation on the subject of the color of street striping in the city. The Commission had traditionally opposed the use of yellow lines in monumental Washington, even though it had become a national standard for roads under Federal controls. It was pointed out that the sphere of white street markings had become increasingly small; now the Park Service was questioning the use of yellow vs. white in Rock Creek Park. The Secretary hoped that the Commission would confirm their previous position on the white stripes. The Chairman pointed out the danger of putting aesthetic considerations over safety, but the Commission agreed using white stripes in the low speed monumental core would not create an unsafe situation. Further discussion was held later in the meeting with a Park Service representative.

6. Seabee Memorial Alterations. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing the approved Seabee Memorial design saying that the monument had been erected and dedicated, but there were two plaques which had been intended for the memorial which had not been shown on the drawings. The Seabees now desired to have the Commission's advice on adding these plaques to the existing work. The items in question were

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to be hung on the monument in the desired location for the day and the Commission had been invited to visit the site and make the decision. After much discussion the Commission decided that they would prefer seeing no additional elements added to the memorial. The Chairman suggested that the Secretary and Assistant Secretary inspect the site and report to the local members.

C. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

1. Patient Visitor Facility, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The Assistant Secretary presented this new design following the Master Plan for a two-floor gable-roofed brick structure of contemporary design, but harmonizing with the adjacent Georgian hospital and residential buildings. The facility would provide dormitory or motel services to next-of-kin visiting patients at this hospital. The Commission approved the project with the proviso that the brick match existing post brick colors as closely as possible.

2. Emergency Pumping Station, Potomac Estuary - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings showing a low pyramidal natural rock structure with a viewing platform on top. During low water emergencies, special pumps would be brought to the site and installed as a part of the Washington Water System. The site being both extremely scenic and historic had demanded special care in designing such a facility. The previous design had called for a large concrete structure with mock crenellations and ungainly proportions - the Commission had suggested refinement of the previous scheme. The members were delighted with the new non-architectural scheme using indigenous rock rather than concrete. The project was approved. Exhibit 2.

D. Redevelopment Land Agency

Streets for People Information Center. The Assistant Secretary presented a series of drawings and a model depicting some of the paving and landscaping details for this project which had been confined to improvements in front of the Martin Luther King Library on G Street, between 9th and 10th, and in front of the National Portrait Gallery on F Street between 7th and 9th Streets, N.W. The Commission examined the working drawings, finding no objection to the quality of the details proposed, but suggesting that the number of different types of plant material was excessive and that this could be simplified. The Assistant Secretary then directed their attention to the model of a proposed information center to be on the new pedestrian plaza at F and 9th Streets, N.W. This model depicted a space frame canopy covering a series of kiosks and information machines that would furnish answers to questions about events and history in Washington. There would also be an attendant on duty and provisions for changing displays. The center's concept was distinctive visibility and convenient access to the pedestrian public. The Commission

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felt that the center would be overly visible from F Street and 9th Street and further could provide a complicated discordant element surrounded by historic older buildings and the high quality paving and landscaping. Though suggestions were made that the elements of the center should be innocuously disbursed throughout the plaza under a continuous tree cover - or perhaps be located in a store front, further discussion was held off until a meeting with project representatives later in the morning.

E. American Battle Monuments Commission

Pershing Memorial Mockup. The Secretary told the Commission that an on-site mockup of the Pershing Memorial design previously questioned by them was ready for their viewing later in the meeting. The Commission examined drawings and photographs of the previous submission to familiarize themselves with the specific proposal and its context within the new Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Plan. Further discussion and examination was held later in the day.

III. INTERVIEWS

A. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

No representatives present.

B. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Peter Muhlenberg Memorial, Connecticut Avenue and Ellicott Street, N.W. - Resubmission. Mr. Harbeson had already been informed of the Commission's approval and no formal interview was held with representatives of the National Park Service. Exhibit 3.

2. Comfort Stations, West Potomac Park. Mr. Ben Biderman of the National Capital Region was informed of the Commission's continued approval of this project. Exhibit 4.

3. Alterations to the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials to provide elevators for the handicapped - Resubmission. Mr. Ben Biderman of the National Capital Region was informed of the Commission's approval of the additional drawings for this project. Exhibit 5.

4. Anacostia River Park System. John Townsley and Robert Romanowski represented the National Capital Region and Messers Colden Florance and Ray Hare with Mrs. Patricia Schiffler and Miss Marie Barksdale represented the consultant architectural firm of Keyes, Lethbridge, and Condon. Mr. Florance made a brief presentation of the project's major features and his consultant team's relationship to the community adjacent to the Anacostia Parks. The Chairman indicated the Commission's approval

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of the general approach as Mr. Florance added a new drawing depicting the cross-section of the proposed roller skating pavillion to the exhibits. The Commission saw no objection to the skating pavillion design, but suggested that all of the proposed structures should be looked at in greater detail as they were further designed. Mr. Stone pointed out the particular parking area which was quite close to the river's edge and suggested that this element should be restudied. Mr. Florance agreed that this particular area required further resolution and that this parking area could be re-located.

Exhibit 6.

5. Pavement Markings in the Monumental Area of Washington. Mr. John A. Townsley, Assistant Director of the National Capital Region represented the Park Service. Mr. Townsley told the Commission of the Park Service's concern for public safety and cooperation with new standards being devised by the Department of Transportation. He felt that there was sufficient question about the proposed color of Rock Creek road striping to reopen the issue. He stated that the Park Service and the D.C. Highway Department were well aware of the Commission of Fine Arts' preference for white over yellow striping, but that the Park Service had no written ruling from the Commission, nor any document which they could point to as a source for deviating from the national standard of yellow markings. Mr. Townsley further asked if the Commission felt that the Rock Creek Parkway was to be interpreted as part of the Monumental City. The Chairman answered that the Commission did indeed view the park as a very special part of the Capital, and in no way as part of a typical highway system. The consensus was that the Commission would prepare a ruling on the matter and discuss it at draft stage with the Park Service staff. The Park Service staff would at the same time prepare a map indicating what the differing park road areas were and how they related to the monumental core of Washington.

Exhibit 7.

C. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

There were no interviews with the Corps of Engineers since both the Walter Reed Visitor Facility design and the Potomac Estuary Pumping Station redesign had been approved.

D. Redevelopment Land Agency

"Streets for People" Information Center. The project was represented by Miss Jo-Ann Neuhaus and later in addition Mr. Larry Press of the R.L.A. Staff. The Chairman indicated the Commission's displeasure with the visibility and design character of the information center. Miss Neuhaus indicated that the design was already out for bids and that revision would be very difficult at this point. The Chairman suggested that the R.L.A. could save some money by eliminating this feature of the project design. The Commission suggested that additional tree cover would be more desirable than the space frame cover proposed, and that with additional

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trees the various information elements could be disbursed throughout the area and not confined to one highly visible area. The Commission made it quite clear that they were disapproving the entire concept as well as the specific design elements.

Exhibit 8.

IV. INSPECTIONS

Pershing Memorial. At this point Mr. Arroyo left the group indicating that he had inspected the mockup earlier in the morning and was wholly against approval of the proposed design. The remaining Commission members and the Secretary and Assistant Secretary went by car to the site at 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, criss-crossing it from several directions before alighting. While at the site they walked through and around the mockup with various members of the Battle Monuments Commission including Colonel Jones, General North, and Mr. Paul Harbeson. The architect, Mr. Walter Harrison, was also present. After discussion with the project representatives and careful examination of the mockup and the drawings the Commission members returned to their car and voted unanimously to disapprove the design and to recommend that it be abandoned in favor of a landscape solution more in character with the green park and the Ellipse beyond which form the leafy western end of monumental Pennsylvania Avenue.

Exhibit 9. #10

The Chairman adjourned the formal meeting at 1:00 p.m., with Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Dart, and Mr. Weymouth going to the Freer Gallery to inspect recent acquisitions on behalf of the Commission. The Secretary and the Assistant Secretary went to the Seabee Memorial Site for a scheduled inspection of the proposed additional plaques.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 12, 1974, viewed the revised design for the Peter Muhlenberg Memorial on Connecticut Avenue at Ellicott Street, N.W.

We were pleased to see that several changes suggested at the initial meeting had been incorporated into the new design, including the free-standing pool, elimination of the above-grade pump house and "story garden" and a realignment of the approach paths to the memorial.

After a brief discussion with the architect, John Harbeson, who assured us details of the sculpture would be presented for further review, the Commission unanimously approved the design.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown (ca)
J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Richard L. Stanton
Acting Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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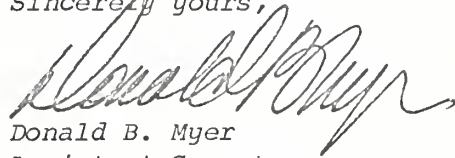
708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

17 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Schletzer,

This confirms the Commission of Fine Arts' approval of the Little Falls Emergency Pumping Station on June 12, 1974. The new design with its low profile and natural indigenous rock will be far less obvious and detrimental to this historic and scenic spot. I would also add my pleasure at seeing another well-engineered design at a location which saw so much civil engineering history with the Chain "suspension" Bridge, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and the Washington Aqueduct.

Sincerely yours,



Donald B. Myer
Assistant Secretary

Mr. C. L. Schletzer, Chief
Engineering Division
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

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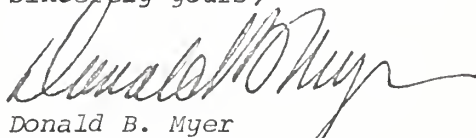
708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
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17 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Edwards,

This confirms the Commission of Fine Arts' approval of the Patient Visitor Facility at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The building conforms to the general master plan - the scale and materials seem in harmony with the adjacent older structures. One thing we would stress is good landscaping with the initial construction to avoid making this facility an intrusion on this very special and scenic area.

Sincerely yours,



Donald B. Myer
Assistant Secretary

Mr. Douglas Edwards, Project Manager
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

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14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Stanton,

This is merely to confirm final review of site and building plans for the comfort stations in West Potomac Park.

We trust the exterior material of grey slate will not look as shiny and black as it was depicted in the accompanying rendering. With that assurance, we are happy to approve the design.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Richard L. Stanton
Acting Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Exhibit 4.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 12, 1974, reviewed further studies of the new rampways that are being provided for the handicapped at the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials.

Both of the schemes are acceptable, provided the stone and the detailing match adjoining masonry work on each memorial.

We would appreciate the opportunity to review working drawings of all work, including the elevator installation, prior to the construction contract.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Richard L. Stanton
Acting Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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17 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Fish,

This confirms the Commission of Fine Arts' approval of the schematic designs for Anacostia Park as presented to us on June 12, 1974. The general structural technique proposed for the various park structures has a delightful character. This will add a great deal of interest to this somewhat flat featureless area. The idea of pulling the roads and parking away from the water's edge will make the park more enjoyable and improve the view from across the river.

The Commission did have two suggestions, however. One was that more picnic shelters be roofed for rain protection. The other concerns one of the parking areas near the proposed skating structure and abutting the water. We hope that restudy can find an alternate location for this parking, making it more consistent with the vocabulary of the rest of the design. Keeping cars away from the river seems to us a good general policy.

The Commission will look forward to seeing additional details as they are developed.

Sincerely yours,



Donald B. Myer
Assistant Secretary

Mr. Manus J. Fish, Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Townsley:

We were happy to have the opportunity to talk to you at our meeting on June 12, 1974 about the controversial yellow pavement markings and to learn how they might apply to portions of the Park Service road system in Washington.

Your commitment to apply a uniform system of pavement markings throughout the entire park system, as required by the Department of Transportation is understandable when one considers how extensive the Park Service road system is in this country. It is this very common denominality however, that the Fine Arts Commission seeks to avoid in preserving Washington's uniqueness as the Capital City.

This is especially true in such sensitive areas as the monumental core of Washington, with the Mall and its enframing avenues and monuments. To introduce further distractions in the form of garish yellow pavement markings into this area would, in our opinion, be a great mistake.

I think that your suggestion that the staffs of the National Capital Parks and of the Commission of Fine Arts get together and study in detail some specific locations that might qualify as exceptions is an excellent one.

Hopefully, through our joint studies of the problem, we will be able to arrive at a reasonable solution which will satisfy both of our commitments.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown (CA)

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John A. Townsley, Deputy Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Stanton:

We got a call from the Navy prior to our meeting on the 12th of June regarding the Seabee Memorial. Apparently when we approved the design, two plaques were inadvertently left off the flanking walls adjacent to the main statuary group. After having seen them in place, it is the Commission's view that the memorial is better off without them. They are out of scale with the rest of the design and the fact that the small green metal plaques contrast so strongly with the polished black granite does little to help the situation.

In talking with the Navy representatives on the site, it was explained that the extra plaques were to depict the Seabees' role as a fighting unit as well as a construction unit. Since the central figure of the composition is already outfitted with helmet and rifle, I think this is a dubious point.

Please give me a call if you have any further questions about the Commission's action.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Richard L. Stanton
Acting Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
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14 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Mister:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on June 12, 1974, considered detailed designs for portions of the "Streets for People" program on F and G Streets, N.W.

Our major concern lies with the information center on the west end of F Street next to the Portrait Gallery. We unanimously disapprove such a scheme. Its flashy and gimmicky nature is completely out of character with the rest of the project. The removal of a considerable number of trees required by such a construction also unbalances the composition and disrupts the landscape design generally.

Far better, in our view, would be to continue the uniform planting of trees in this area, and to locate modestly scaled information kiosks, perhaps two or three, beneath and among the trees. Even these minor structures should be designed as movable structures for maximum flexibility of use.

Other portions of the drawings still appeared complex. It was our feeling that the schedule of plant materials seemed excessively long and we recommend that you take a second look with the hope some reduction can be made in the great variety of species.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is on September 18, although there is a chance we will be meeting on July 31. Please let us know well in advance of the scheduled dates if you want to present any new material.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Melvin A. Mister, Executive Director
Redevelopment Land Agency
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

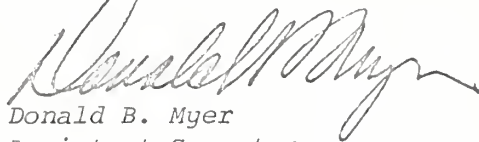
17 June, 1974

Dear Mr. Woodbridge,

At their June 12, 1974 meeting the Commission of Fine Arts confirmed their previous actions and comments concerning the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. In specific response to your request for our views on the environmental impact of the plan I am enclosing a transcript of the statement by Commission Chairman J. Carter Brown and our written comments as presented to the City Government on May 18, 1974.

As of the June 12 meeting the Commission is also on record as opposing the current designs for the Pershing Memorial. They are overly architectural and block many of the vistas which enhance the area at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue. This Commission's hope is that a suitable landscape solution primarily on the ground plane can be devised which will be more compatible with those design objectives of the PADC endorsed by the Commission of Fine Arts.

Sincerely yours,



Donald B. Myer
Assistant Secretary

Mr. John Woodbridge, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
Suite 1148, 425 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Exhibit 9.



THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

14 June, 1974

Col. William P. Jones, Jr.
Director of Engineering and Maintenance
American Battle Monuments Commission
2067 Tempo A Building
Washington, D.C. 20315

Dear Col. Jones:

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciated the opportunity, at its meeting on June 12, 1974, to view the mockup of the Pershing Memorial. We regarded this as an essential step in the design process, and as it turned out, our earlier reservations about the massive scale of the proposed walls were clearly reinforced by the demonstration project.

It is our unanimous conclusion that the concept of the memorial should be completely redefined. We are recommending a total landscape solution, where the various elements of the design such as the statue, pool, and paving are all events in the park, thus establishing the whole park as a memorial to Pershing.

What this will in effect do is to allow a transition of landscape elements on the west end of the Avenue to gradually expand and merge with the area in front of the Treasury Department and to the Ellipse beyond. This in our view is the proper transition between these two major design elements. The high walls of the present scheme obviously achieve exactly the opposite effect by completely obscuring the view from a number of vantage points.

Exhibit 10

...2/

Col. Jones/14 June, 1974/page 2

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for September 18, although there is a chance we may be meeting on Wednesday, July 31. Please let us know when you anticipate any new studies and we will be happy to see if we can work out a mutually agreeable schedule.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown (CA)

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

12 June, 1974

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 74-132	3225 M Street, N.W. Orpheus	Erect new front door.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Photographs must show area of proposed work. Those submitted are totally inadequate. Suggest locating new doors back at first break, not in center of glass panels. Show exact type of door, surround, and transom, if any. 5/24/74	
134	1010-1014 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. A. C. Rathner	Install Dodge Center leasing sign 5' x 5' on front of 1016 Wisconsin Avenue.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Sign not recommended for front of building, because of shape and color. Suggest total restudy, perhaps locating a temporary sign on construction fence. Text "Commercial and Office Space not permitted by Code. 5/24/74	
135	2516 Q Street, N.W. Louise O. Pinckernell	Remodel and upgrade existing building for use as a telephone service center.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/24/74	
136	3040 Dumbarton Street, N.W. Paul Gardner, Jr. et ux.	3' high fence to be installed on top of retaining wall which runs along front of property. 6' gate would run across driveway, and would match height of fence set on 3' retaining wall.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/24/74	
137	1015 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Kodak	Install one wall plaque; install one set non-illuminated letters 18" high (resubmission refer to OG 74-98).
ACTION:	Issue permit. Suggest that Wisconsin Avenue sign be located 1' lower than shown on drawings. Also suggest that letters saying "Kodak" be centered over door. 6/5/74	
138	3252 O Street, N.W. John Wallach	Affix Williamsburg-type outdoor light fixture.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 6/5/74	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

12 June, 1974

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER

PROJECT

SL 74-

70

131 C Street, N.E.

Congressman & Mrs. J. Dellenback

Relocate front door and first floor window, install new basement front and rear windows, install new sliding glass dining room door, install new house deck and garage deck, wood fences.

ACTION: Issue permit. Suggest using existing door trim. 5/24/74

71

2301 Calvert Street, N.W.

A. M. Tangosen

Install one illuminated sign.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. V-shaped signs not recommended. Internally illuminated signs not recommended. Suggest single, flat sign similar in size and location to "Tallyrand". 6/6/74

77

600 22nd Street, N.W.

George Washington University

Erect new physical education building (resubmission refer to SL 74-15).

ACTION: Approved provided cooling tower on northwest corner of building not exceed 5' in height above cornice and be painted to match main penthouse. Or, as an alternative, relocate tower, incorporating it within main penthouse area. 6/7/74

